

Speaking The Truth VS The Comfort Of Conformity

By Bhakta John Jagannatha March 21, 2021



**Masks were a common sight at the height of the epidemic,
particularly amongst public workers**

Photo from 100 Disasters That Shook The World 2004 Spanish Flu 1918 - 1919

Please accept this humble attempt to provide some minor factual information, both material and spiritual, concerning the current state of temporal reality. Let the reader, if there is one, decide the worthiness.

The first point, in our humble opinion, is to decide the value of the previously accepted historical proper definitions or meanings of words. Do the words we use have specific meanings or is it acceptable to arbitrarily change or ignore the meanings to suit a particular time place and circumstance.

The following are the previously accepted meanings of the words epidemic and pandemic.

WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY
Second Edition Unabridged 1951

epidemic, adj.

1. *Med.* Common to, or affecting at the same time, a large number in a community; - applied to a disease which spreading widely, attacks many persons at the same time; as, an *epidemic* disease.
2. Spreading widely, or generally prevailing; affecting great numbers; as, *epidemic* rage; an *epidemic* evil.

epidemic, n.

1. *Med.* A rapidly spreading or widely prevalent attack of disease.
2. An attack of anything so general as to be like an epidemic disease; as, an *epidemic* of terror.

pandemic, adj.

1. Of or pertaining to all the people; vulgar; general; universal; specif., *Med.*, affecting the majority of people in a country or number of countries; everywhere epidemic.
2. Of or pert. to common or sensual love; sensual; carnal.

pandemic, n. A pandemic disease.

So, according to previously accepted dictionary meanings, epidemic affects a large number in a community and pandemic affects all everywhere. Currently, according to the apparently materialist scientists, the world as we know it is in a pandemic.

Here are the actual statistics which we found on the internet.

The coronavirus pandemic has sickened more than 120,919,300 people, according to official counts. As of Wednesday afternoon, at least 2,673,500 people have died from coronavirus. nytimes.com march 17 2021

During the past year, more than 118 million people have become infected, with over 2.6 million deaths from COVID-19 worldwide. democracynow.org march 11 2021

The current US Census Bureau world population estimate in June 2019 shows that the current global population is 7,577,130,400 people on earth, which far exceeds the world population of 7.2 billion from 2015. Our own estimate based on UN data shows the world's population surpassing 7.7 billion. worldpopulation.com

According to nytimes.com and democracynow.org there were approximately 2.6 million deaths worldwide from the pandemic. According to worldpopulation.com the worldwide population is approximately 7.6 billion.

Let us perform some simple subtraction.

$$7,600,000,000 - 2,600,000 = 7,597,400,000$$

Do those numbers equal a large percentage of the population or a majority of the population or everywhere among the population *affected or unaffected* by the pandemic?

We can see from the numbers that close to 99% of the population is surviving the pandemic. Even if we calculate the number of deaths to be 25 million it is still not a significant percentage of the entire population.

We are not unaffected by the fact that millions of spirit souls passed from this world but the material world, in sastra, is called Mrtyu-loka or the world of death. We can not hide behind a mask from disease aging or death.

*sri bhagavan uvaca asocyan anvasocas tvam parjna-vadams ca bhasase
gatasun agatasums ca nanusocanti panditah*

Translation:

"The Blessed Lord said: While speaking learned words, you are mourning for what is not worthy of grief. Those who are wise lament neither for the living nor the dead."

Purport excerpt:

..."The body is born and is destined to be vanquished today or tomorrow; therefore the body is not as important as the soul. One who knows this is actually learned, and for him there is no cause for lamentation, regardless of the condition of the body." (*Bhagavad-gita As It Is, Chapter 2, Text 11*)

In our most humble opinion, apparently, the governments' pandemic-related restrictions, edicts, orders, laws and lockdowns are actually epidemic and pandemic in nature and proportion – large, all-encompassing, and everywhere.

The author of this minor offering to the Vaisnavas has been in retired seclusion for almost four years. The author has never frequented restaurants. The last time we were on an airplane was forty years ago. The previous time we rode in an automobile was four years ago. We have not visited a temple of Lord Krishna in three years.

Obviously government mandates of restricted travel and business and personal association have had little or no effect on this particular spirit soul. We have a natural tendency towards asceticism or living as a hermit of sorts. Austerity is the wealth of the brahmana. The ugliness of our material body is most certainly a boon in repulsing other spirit souls from approaching for personal association.

Yet we are not suffering so much from loneliness or isolation. We have the transcendental association of the vani of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami in his original books and audio recordings and video recordings. We have the transcendental association of the Supreme Personality of Godhead and all of His paraphernalia via His holy names -

*HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE / HARE
RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE HARE.*

We do not discount the nectar of devotional association. There is the internet where we may see and hear different Vaisnavas in different Vaisnava temples having kirtana and class. Such “virtual association” is woefully inadequate compared to the social interactions of personal physical association. We cannot smell the incense being offered to the Lord. We are unable to feel the transcendental heat of the ghee wicks offered to the Deities and then passed among the devotees in attendance for purification. We cannot feel the ground beneath our feet vibrate from the lotus feet of the Vaisnavas dancing for the pleasure of the Supreme Lord. That is the one very necessary aspect of Krsna consciousness that is missing from our life. We offer our most respectful obeisances to all the Vaisnavas and aspiring Vaisnavas. You and your desire-tree-like mercy are an essential part of devotional life and it is lacking in the life of this spirit soul. That is today. Krsna knows what tomorrow will bring.

The next point is to decide whether those who are currently being promoted as the administrative class, are actually qualified and actually performing their administrative duties in the interest of Mother Bhumi and the people in general, or are their interests only materialistic self-interest. In other words, are they acting on the platform of what is beneficial for all the living entities nurtured and sustained by Mother Bhumi or are they simply rogues acting primarily for their own short-sighted material benefit and the material benefit of their associates and supporters.

To assist the reader, if there is one, on this point, we offer the following provable factual information from 2005 which may be found at foreignaffairs.com and cidrap.umn.edu.

Michael Osterholm was the first to announce the possible pandemic influenza outbreak as a spokesman for the CDC.

The words of Michael Osterholm from an essay written for the Council on Foreign Relations from July/August 2005 -

"If an influenza pandemic struck today, borders would close, the global economy would shut down, international vaccine supplies and health-care systems would be overwhelmed, and panic would reign."

Mr. Osterholm is a consultant to the World Health Organization, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Defense, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He is head of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), which is funded by 3m corporation.

Mr. Osterholm also consults with governments and private corporations around the world about preparedness – and profit making – during times of mass death. 3m has many multi-million dollar contracts with the Department of Defense and is reputedly owned by Halliburton.

This is not by any means an attempt to place blame on any person or persons or government or corporate entity. This is only to offer some small proof that although multiple corporate and government entities were apparently aware of the possibility of a future disaster in the form of a pandemic, with more than enough time to prepare for such a foreseeable catastrophe, this information apparently was not shared widely, if at all, with the population of the world in general. In our humble opinion, if those in the positions of power in the administrative class were actually interested in serving the best interest of *all* the living entities, *all* of the current pandemonium could and should have been averted.

The third point concerns the oh-so-obvious fear we have seen every day in the eyes of the masked and double-masked human beings when we walk, mask-less, through the neighborhoods of Brooklyn and Queens in New York City. It is almost a delusional psychosis – a delusional fear that if one doesn't maintain some arbitrary anti-social distance or if one doesn't wear a mask or two masks one's body might die or cause someone else's body to die.

We have no such delusional fear. We place our faith not in the defective materialist scientists but in the infallible Supreme Scientist the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krsna and His bona fide representative His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada.

*appanah samsrtim ghoram
yan-nama vivaso grnan
tatah sadyo vimucyeta
yad bibheti svayam bhayam*

Translation:

"Living beings who are entangled in the complicated meshes of birth and death can be freed immediately by even unconsciously chanting the holy name of Krsna, who is feared by fear personified."

Purport:

"Vasudeva, or Lord Krsna, the Absolute Personality of Godhead, is the supreme controller of everything. There is no one in creation who is not afraid of the rage of the Almighty. Great asuras like Ravana, Hiranyakasipu, Kamsa, and others who were very powerful living entities were all killed by the Personality of Godhead. And the almighty Vasudeva has empowered His name with the powers of His Personal Self. Everything is related to Him, and everything has its identity in Him. It is stated herein that the name of Krsna is feared even by fear personified. This indicates that the name of Krsna is nondifferent from Krsna. Therefore, the name of Krsna is as powerful as Lord Krsna Himself. There is no difference at all. Anyone, therefore, can take advantage of the holy names of Lord Sri Krsna even in the midst of greatest dangers. The transcendental name of Krsna, even though uttered unconsciously or by force of circumstances, can help one obtain freedom from the hurdle of birth and death." (*Srimad Bhagavatam, Canto 1, Chapter 1, Text 14*)

*buddhir jnanam asammohah
ksama satyam damah samah
sukham duhkham bhavo 'bhavo
bhayam cabhayam eva ca*

*ahimsa samata tustis
tapo danam yaso 'yasah
bhavanti bhava bhutanam
matta eva prthag-vidhah*

Translation:

"Intelligence, knowledge, freedom from doubt and delusion, forgiveness, truthfulness, self-control and calmness, pleasure and pain, birth, death, fear, fearlessness, nonviolence, equanimity, satisfaction, austerity, charity, fame and infamy are created by Me alone."

Purport excerpt:

"The different qualities of living entities, be they good or bad, are all created by Kṛṣṇa, and they are described here.

Intelligence refers to the power of analyzing things in proper perspective, and knowledge refers to understanding what is spirit and what is matter. Ordinary knowledge obtained by a university education pertains only to matter and it is not accepted here as knowledge. Knowledge means knowing the distinction between spirit and matter. In modern education there is no knowledge about the spirit; they are simply taking care of material elements and bodily needs. Therefore academic knowledge is not complete.

Assamohah, freedom from doubt and delusion, can be achieved when one is not hesitant and when he understands the transcendental philosophy. Slowly but surely he becomes free from bewilderment. Nothing should be accepted blindly; everything should be accepted with care and with caution...

...*Satyam*, truthfulness, means that facts should be presented as they are for the benefit of others. Facts should not be misrepresented. According to social conventions it is said that one can speak the truth only when it is palatable to others. But that is not truthfulness. The truth should be spoken in a straight and forward way, so that others will understand actually what

the facts are. If a man is a thief and if people are warned that he is a thief, that is truth. Although sometimes the truth is unpalatable, one should not refrain from speaking it. Truthfulness demands that the facts be presented as they are for the benefit of others. That is the definition of truth.

...*Bhava*, birth, should be understood to refer to the body. As far as the soul is concerned, there is neither birth nor death; that we have discussed in the beginning of Bhagavad-gita. Birth and death apply to one's embodiment in the material world. Fear is due to worrying about the future. A person in Krsna consciousness has no fear because by his activities he is sure to go back to the spiritual sky, back home, back to Godhead. Therefore his future is very bright. Others, however, do not know what their future holds; they have no knowledge of what the next life holds. So they are therefore in constant anxiety. If we want to get free from anxiety, then the best course is to understand Krsna and be situated always in Krsna consciousness. In that way we will be free from all fear. In the Srimad-Bhagavatam it is stated that fear is caused by our absorption in the illusory energy, but those who are free from the illusory energy, those who are confident that they are not the material body, that they are spiritual parts of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, have nothing to fear. Their future is very bright. This fear is a condition of persons who are not in Krsna consciousness. *Bhayam*, fearlessness, is only possible for one in Krsna consciousness..." (*Bhagavad-gita As It Is*, Chapter 10, Texts 4-5)

Our last point is this – maintaining both physical and spiritual health and well-being of body mind and soul is an *individual's God-given right and responsibility*.

What we have presented here has nothing to do with wild conspiratorial speculation. What we have presented here are true provable facts, both material and spiritual.

We do realize that the presentation of truth is hardly welcome among the general populace of the current time place and circumstance of what the Vaisnavas know as the Kali yuga – the age of quarrel and hypocrisy. One has only to read any headline of today's internet of news to see the apparently shameless hypocrisy being presented as truth. We also realize the possibility of being cancelled, not only from the internet, but also having all

opportunities and avenues for earning a living cancelled, for offering such truth and facts. What to speak of our current temporary material body being cancelled.

The choice, in both the material and spiritual aspects, in our humble opinion, has always been this – speak and act on what is truthful and factual and possibly be ostracized from society or be silent and falsely secure in the comfort of conformity.

Our only aim has been to provide some little known facts and essential truths, for what we pray, are for the benefit of others. Let the reader, if there is one; decide the worthiness of our humble presentation.

Srila Prabhupada says, "they'll pay to make a literature with bombastic scientific word, and they'll prepare literature. This is going on to introduce new patent medicine."...

Prabhupada: That is going on. Big, big patent medicine, they will explain scientifically and give to the doctors and make experiment, and they will go on making experiment. I know it. This is their business. They'll write, they will call for the medical students – they have learned new, new words – and they'll pay to make a literature with bombastic scientific word, and they'll prepare literature. This literature will be distributed and give their medicine, and they may pay them for false propaganda. This is going on to introduce new patent medicine. I know that. Simply water they will inject to get money. The patients have come, innocent, illiterate – Do you want to be cured very quickly or little less?" He's a laborer. He says, "Yes, sir, if you cure me." "So then injection will be required." He has no disease, and they'll give some water injection, yes, and take fee. Because as soon as there is question of injection, he'll charge at least four rupees, five rupees. He has no disease. They will inject water and take four, five rupees. In India I have seen. It is very difficult to consult with a doctor. Money is the only aim." (*Conversation -- January 26, 1977, Jagannatha Puri*)